



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20314-1000

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

CERE-RA (405)

23 April 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Homeowners Assistance Program (HAP) - Policy
Letter 92-6

1. Market Impact Studies (MIS) performed as pre-decision documents to justify implementation of a Homeowners Assistance Program (HAP) must be treated as privileged information, and should not be routinely released to the press or the public.
2. Premature disclosure of MIS data, or unnecessary publicity concerning conduct of an MIS, has lead to unfounded public expectations concerning HAP approval and lost time answering unnecessary inquiries.
3. No MIS will be disclosed to the Press in its entirety. This memorandum is a reminder that the MIS is pre-decision material and should not be randomly discussed. Recent experience dictates this reminder.
4. These studies are an internal decision documentation. All public releases must be handled with sensitivity. Specific requests addressed under the Freedom of Information Act will be answered in accordance with existing procedures. A synopsis of the MIS or pertinent excerpts may be provided to the District Public Affairs Office (PAO) for release to the local press.
5. Real Estate Chiefs are requested to coordinate with their local and Installation Public Affairs Offices and have them involved with the release of MIS or HAP information pertaining to affected communities.
6. In addition, it is prudent for local PAO's to keep their local Congressional staff informed prior to any public release within the community.

FOR THE DIRECTOR:

DON C. CHAPMAN
Chief, Realty Services Division
Directorate of Real Estate

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